INFIGHT

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INFORMATION
(news from East Timor and Malang)

1. Youths in Ermera, Liquisa and Manatuto were tightly monitored by security forces during the recent election period after it was discovered that the PDI vote experienced sharp increases.

2. People were forced to participate in the General Election and forced to vote Golkar. Those who refused were branded as rebels or 'disturbers of safety'.

3. East TImorese, especially youths, returning hiome for their annual school holidays are continually monitored and closely guarded by intelligence personnel, and prevented from freely socialising with their relatives and friends.

4. Priests and nuns have been pressured, closely monitored and threatened by military personnel as they atempt to carry out their pastoral duties. Several of them have been called in periodically for interrogation, including Father Domingos Soares and Father Ricardo da Silva.

5. Pursuits and arrests of supposedly 'suspicious' East Timorese continue to occur. As a result, suspected people are forced to hide in order to protect themselves.

6. East Timorese under suspicion are from time to time subject to the rude slogans of the security forces, who even enter houses to spy on 'suspects'.

7. Uniformed and armed ABRI forces have spread broadely, and regularly undertake house checks.

8. Intelligence personnel are cruising around several places and certain circles to monitor all activities in which East TImorese people are involved. Any signs of suspicious activities lead to house raids, thourough checks, and violent threats by the military towards the inhabitants. ntelligence personnel are often disguised and often as mobile street traders.

9. Changes and shifts have been made in several governmental agencies, to facilititate the monitoring and marginalisation of East Timorese civil servants who are suspected of 'involvement in East Timorese political problems'.

10. The identity of people entering Dili from the outlaying districts, and vice versa, in particular to and from Hera and Tibar, is regularly checked. In addition, passengers on public transport, including women and old people, not carrying the appropriate ID are treated harshly.

11. Photoocopying and photo printing outlets are monitored by intelligence personnel in disguise.

12. A Political Science student of Universitas Merdeka, Malang, Antonio Soares Araujo, was called in and interrogated by Brigadier General Hartono of Brawijaya District Military Command, over a period of 7 hours. This occurred in Surabaya on June 6, and the interrogation was carried out by the Brigadier General himself. The interrogation was reiterated on June 8, and again lasted for seven hours. This second interrogation was undertaken by two captains and a colonel.

13. The military has planned to undertake special investigations into every East Timorese student studying in Java and Bali. According to the District Military Commander, such investigations have been ordered by the President.

14. There has been an increase in the number of intelligence personnel for the monitoring of East Timorese in Java and Bali. They are always in disguise and hang around East Timorese students' places of residence.

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